

MARVEL®



\$1.00 US
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COMICS
CODE



AUTHORITY

X FACTOR

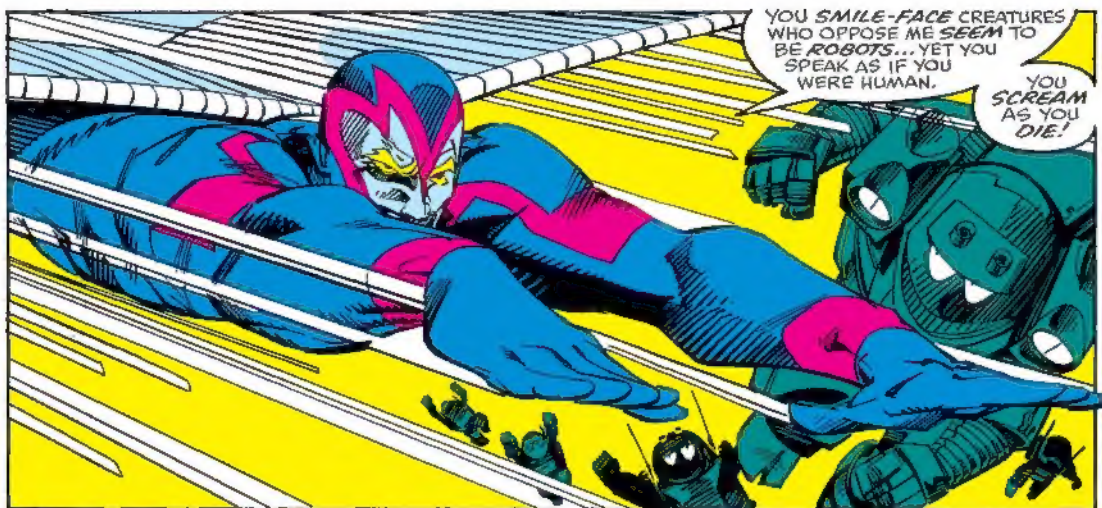
...AND
DEATH
SHALL FALL!



MUTANTS ARE BORN WITH AN X-FACTOR IN THEIR GENETIC STRUCTURES THAT GIVES THEM EXTRAORDINARY POWERS. HERE, MANY STORIES BENEATH A CHICAGO SKYSCRAPER, A SPECIAL ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS THE RIGHT PLOTS THEIR DESTRUCTION. NOW, ONE OF THOSE MARKED FOR DESTRUCTION HAS BECOME THE DESTROYER...

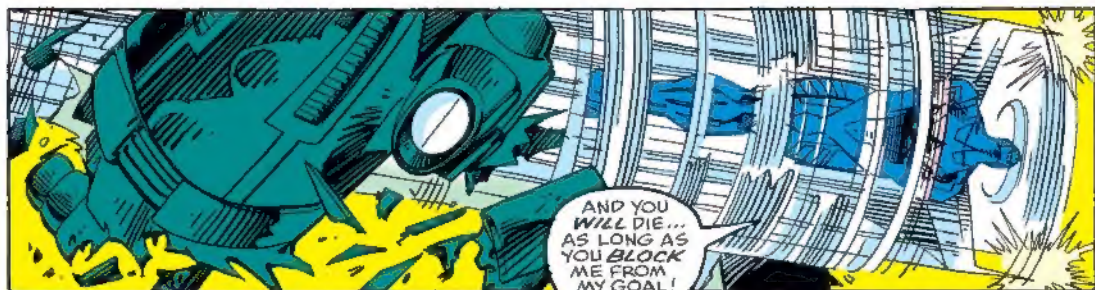


LOUISE SIMONSON WRITER WALTER SIMONSON PENCILER BOB WIACEK INKER JOE ROSEN LETTERER PETRA SCOTese COLORIST BOB HARRAS EDITOR TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

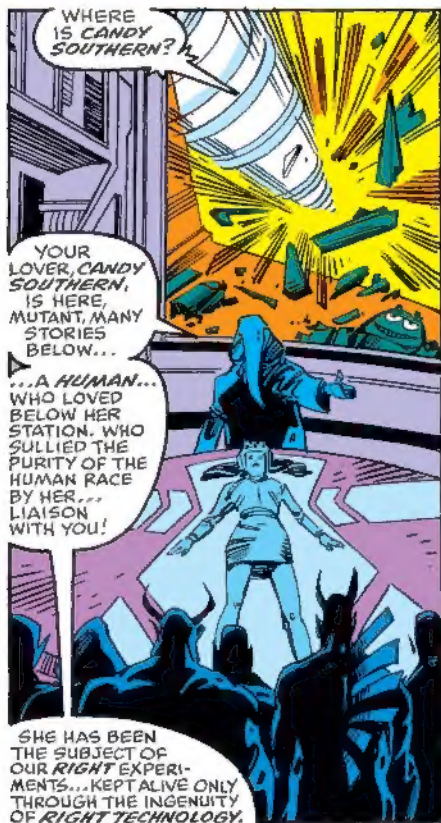


YOU SMILE-FACE CREATURES WHO OPPOSE ME SEEM TO BE ROBOTS... YET YOU SPEAK AS IF YOU WERE HUMAN.

YOU SCREAM AS YOU DIE!



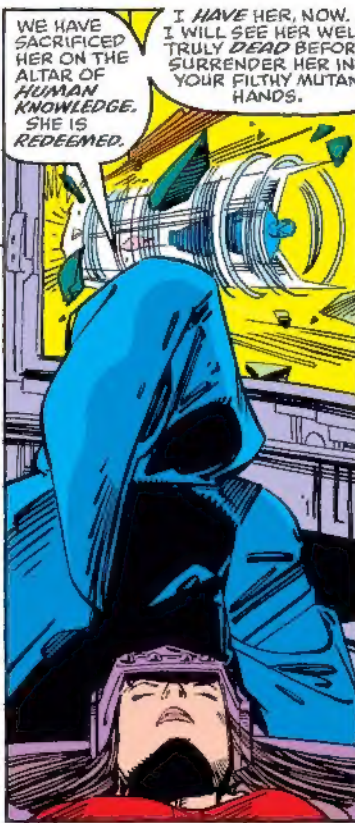
AND YOU WILL DIE... AS LONG AS YOU BLOCK ME FROM MY GOAL!



WHERE IS CANDY SOUTHERN?

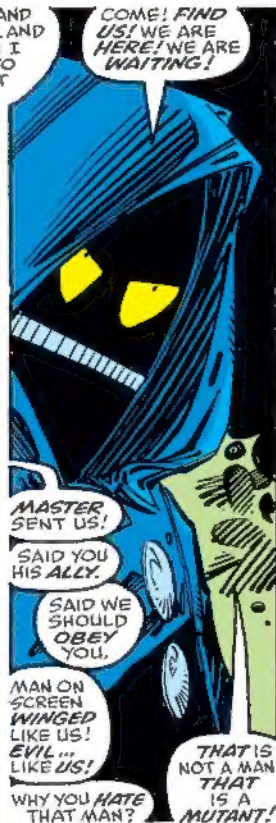
YOUR LOVER, CANDY SOUTHERN, IS HERE, MUTANT. MANY STORIES BELOW...
...A HUMAN... WHO LOVED BELOW HER STATION. WHO SULLIED THE PURITY OF THE HUMAN RACE BY HER... LIAISON WITH YOU!

SHE HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF OUR RIGHT EXPERIMENTS... KEPT ALIVE ONLY THROUGH THE INGENUITY OF RIGHT TECHNOLOGY.



WE HAVE SACRIFICED HER ON THE ALTAR OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE. SHE IS REDEEMED.

I HAVE HER, NOW. AND I WILL SEE HER WELL AND TRULY DEAD BEFORE I SURRENDER HER INTO YOUR FILTHY MUTANT HANDS.

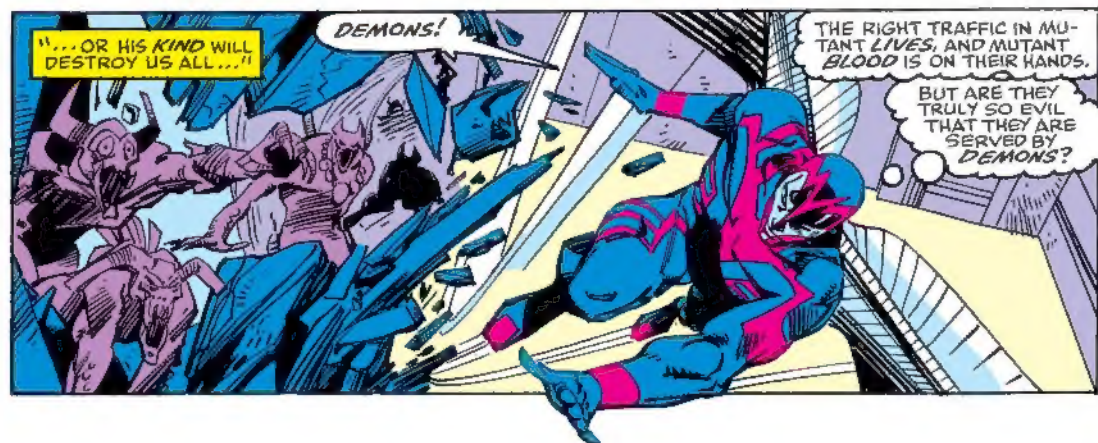
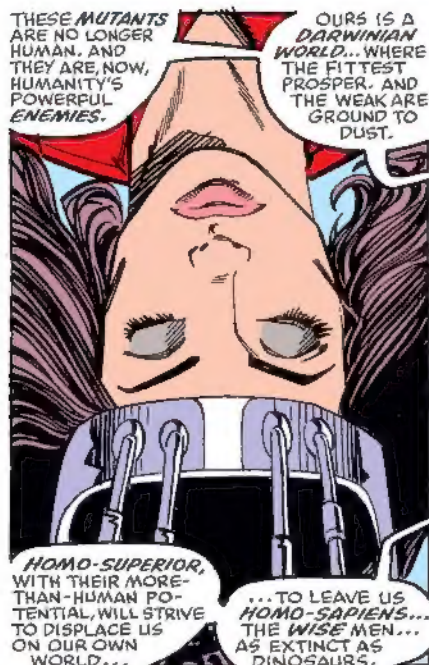


COME! FIND US! WE ARE HERE! WE ARE WAITING!

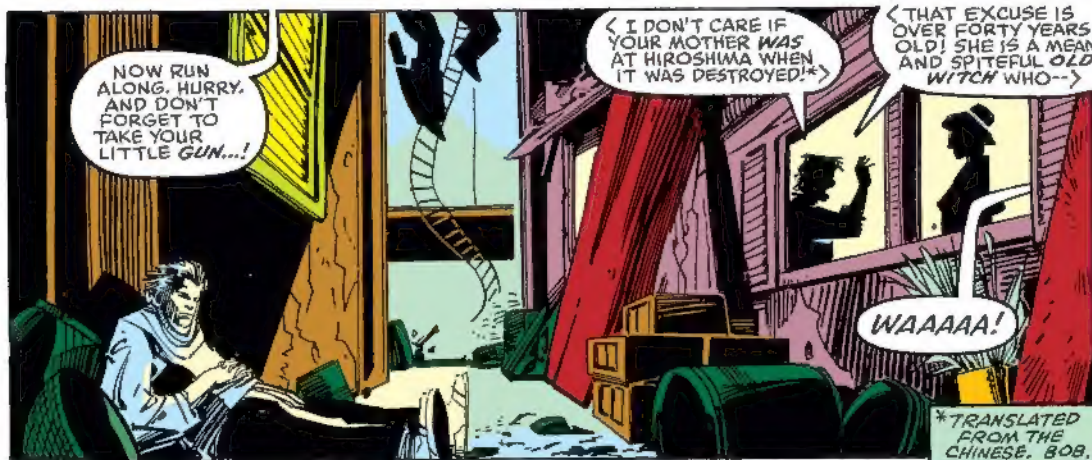
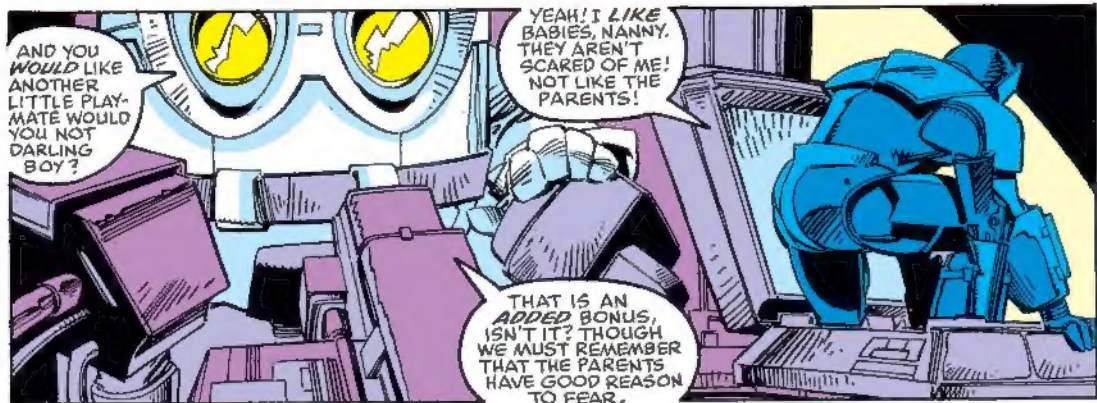
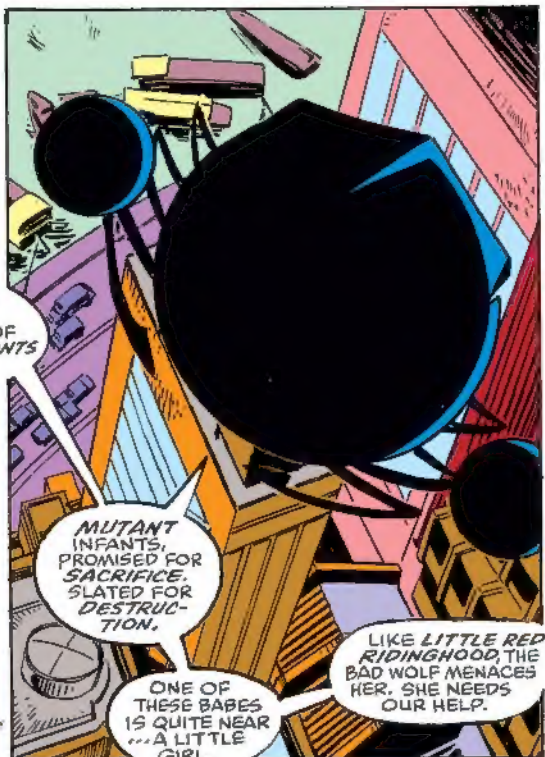
MASTER SENT US!
SAID YOU HIS ALLY.
SAID WE SHOULD OBEY YOU.

MAN ON SCREEN WINGED LIKE US! EVIL... LIKE US!
WHY YOU HATE THAT MAN?

THAT IS NOT A MAN. THAT IS A MUTANT!



MEANWHILE IN THE SKY ABOVE HONG KONG, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD...



*TRANSLATED FROM THE CHINESE. BOB.

<SEE WHAT YOU'VE
DONE WITH YOUR
SHOUTING--? YOU'VE
WAKED THE *BABY!*>

<NOW, NOW,
LITTLE
DARLING!
COME TO
MAMA--!>

CLIK-
CLIK!

<WHO ARE
YOU?>

<IT'S
GOT A
GUN!>

<RUN! TAKE
THE BABY!
I'LL PROTECT-->

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

I HAVE HER,
NANNY! SHE'S
REAL CUTE!

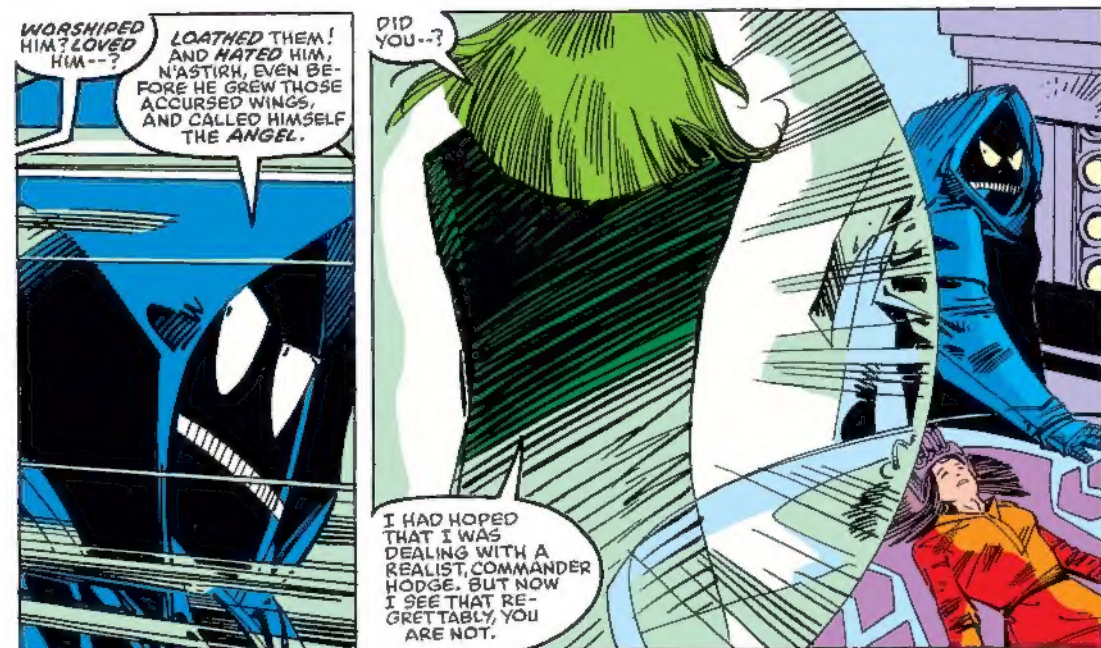
EXCELLENT!
AND NOW WE
MUST HURRY!

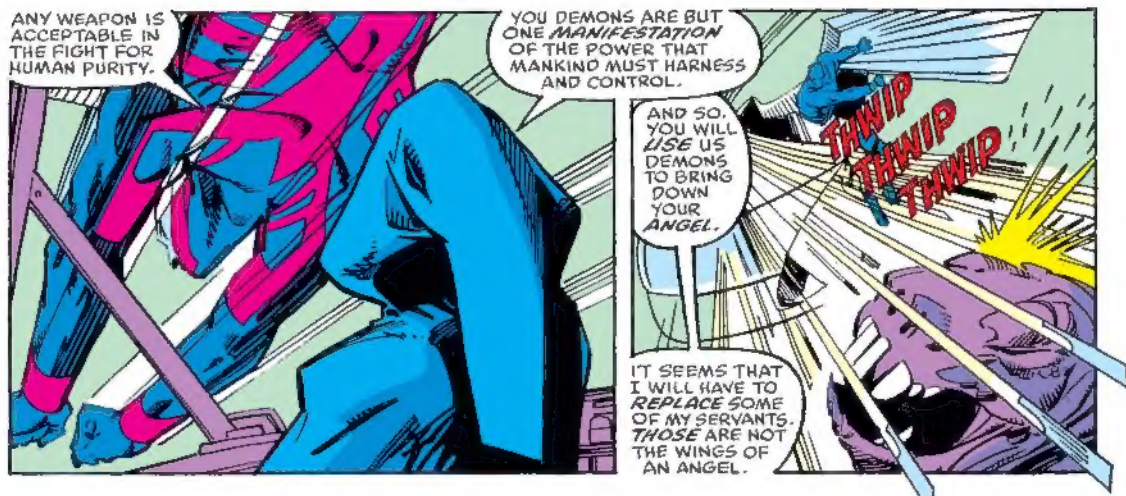
DEMONS... JUST
IMAGINE! HOW VERY
ODD... BUT VERY,
VERY FRUITFUL.

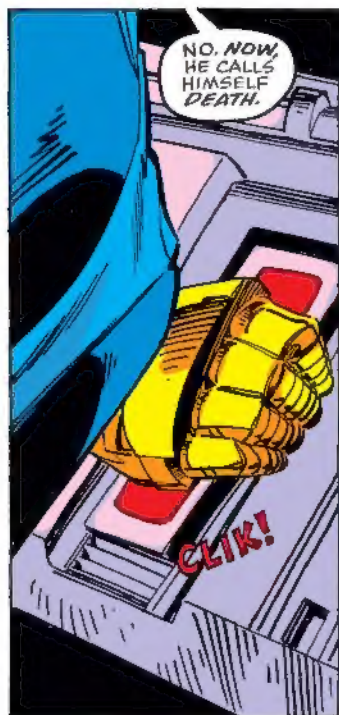
I HAVE CAPTURED
THEIR *LIST* OF
MUTANT INFANTS,
AND WE WILL SAVE
THEM ALL!

A MORAL LESSON,
PETER. OUT OF THE
GREATEST POTENTIAL
FOR TRAGEDY SOME-
TIMES GROWS THE
GREATEST GOOD!

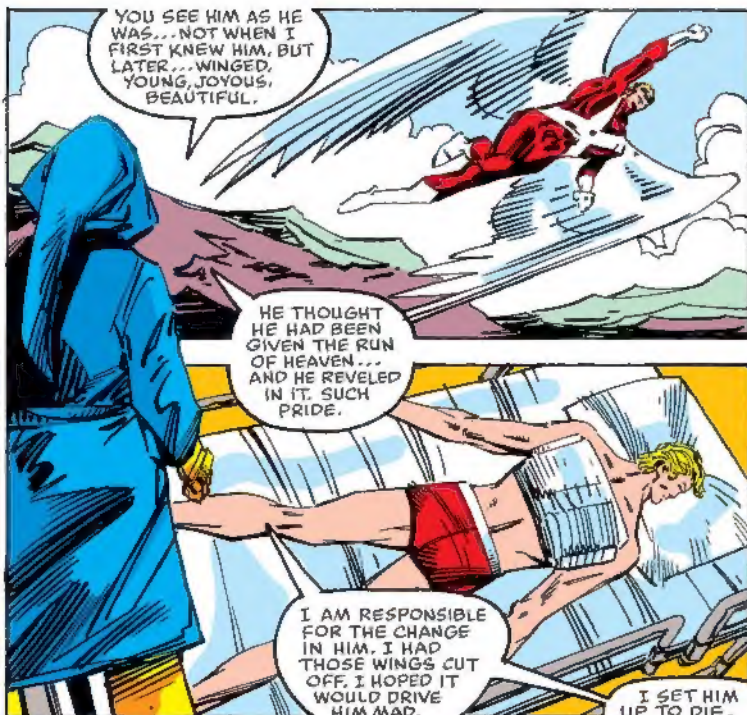
FOR THE SYSTEM-
ATIC EVIL OF
THOSE HUMANS OF
THE RIGHT ENABLES
NANNY AND HER
ORPHAN MAKER
TO CONTINUE THEIR
GOOD WORK.







NO. NOW,
HE CALLS
HIMSELF
DEATH.

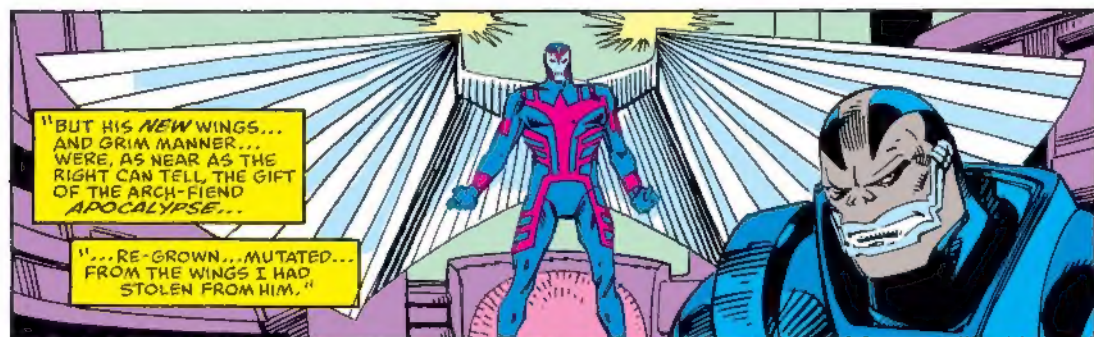


YOU SEE HIM AS HE
WAS... NOT WHEN I
FIRST KNEW HIM, BUT
LATER... WINGED,
YOUNG, JOYOUS,
BEAUTIFUL.

HE THOUGHT
HE HAD BEEN
GIVEN THE RUN
OF HEAVEN...
AND HE REVELED
IN IT. SUCH
PRIDE.

I AM RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE CHANGE
IN HIM. I HAD
THOSE WINGS CUT
OFF. I HOPED IT
WOULD DRIVE
HIM MAD.

I SET HIM
UP TO DIE.



"BUT HIS NEW WINGS...
AND GRIM MANNER...
WERE, AS NEAR AS THE
RIGHT CAN TELL, THE GIFT
OF THE ARCH-FIEND
APOCALYPSE...

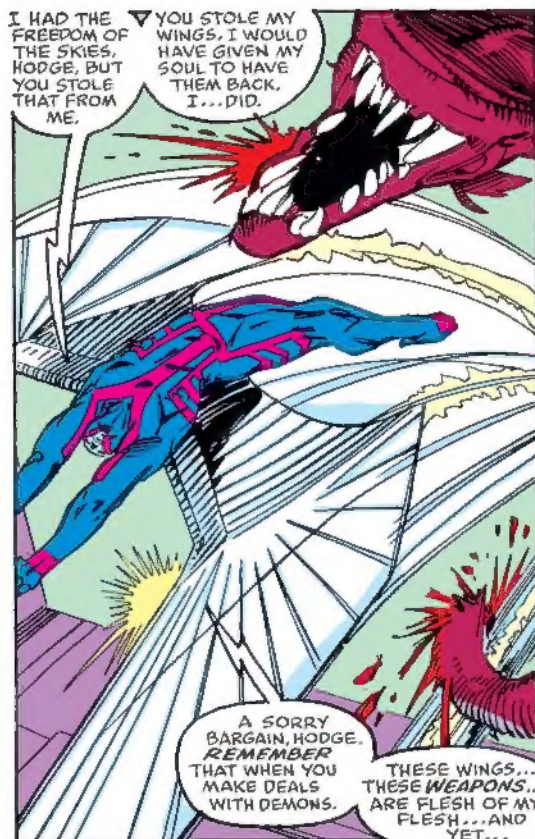
"...RE-GROWN... MUTATED...
FROM THE WINGS I HAD
STOLEN FROM HIM."



SKICKTT!

I KNOW YOU'RE
THERE, HODGE!
I CAN FEEL
YOUR CAMERAS
WATCHING ME.

I'M GOING TO
DISMANTLE THE RIGHT,
HODGE, AS YOU DIS-
MANTLED MY LIFE.



I HAD THE FREEDOM OF THE SKIES, HODGE, BUT YOU STOLE THAT FROM ME.

YOU STOLE MY WINGS, I WOULD HAVE GIVEN MY SOUL TO HAVE THEM BACK. I...DID.

A SORRY BARGAIN, HODGE. REMEMBER THAT WHEN YOU MAKE DEALS WITH DEMONS.

THESE WINGS... THESE WEAPONS... ARE FLESH OF MY FLESH...AND YET...



...THEY'VE BEEN REGENERATED THROUGH APOCALYPSE'S TECHNOLOGY ...TWISTED TO A DARK FACSIMILE. THEY'RE DEMON WINGS.

THEY HAVE A CUTTING EDGE. THEY'RE LIVING DEATH. THEIR SCREAM GIVES VOICE TO THE DARKNESS IN MY SOUL.

THEY FEED ON FEAR...AND ANGER AND HATRED. AND I AM THEIR PRISONER... EVEN AS THEY SERVE ME.

AND THEY SERVE ME WELL!

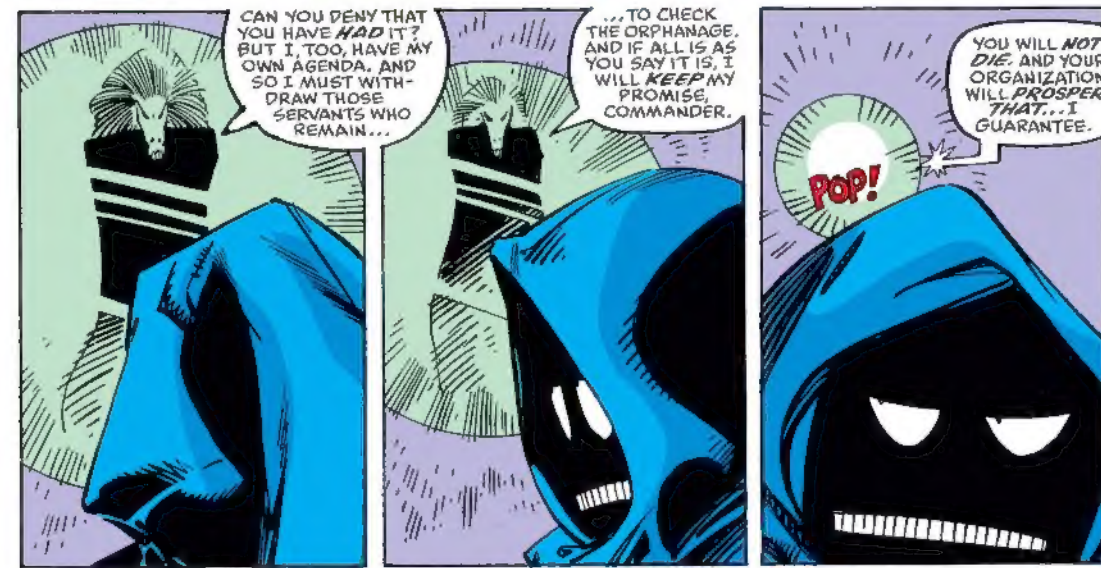
THEY WANT YOUR DEATH, HODGE. I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO HOLD THEM BACK.



IT SEEMS YOU HAVE A FIEND BY THE TAIL, FRIEND HODGE.

AND NOW, I WILL RECALL MY SERVANTS AND LEAVE YOU THE PLEASURE OF KILLING HIM.

BUT--YOU PROMISED ME YOUR AID, DEMON, IN EXCHANGE FOR THE INFANTS...AND CERTAIN OTHER CONCESSIONS.

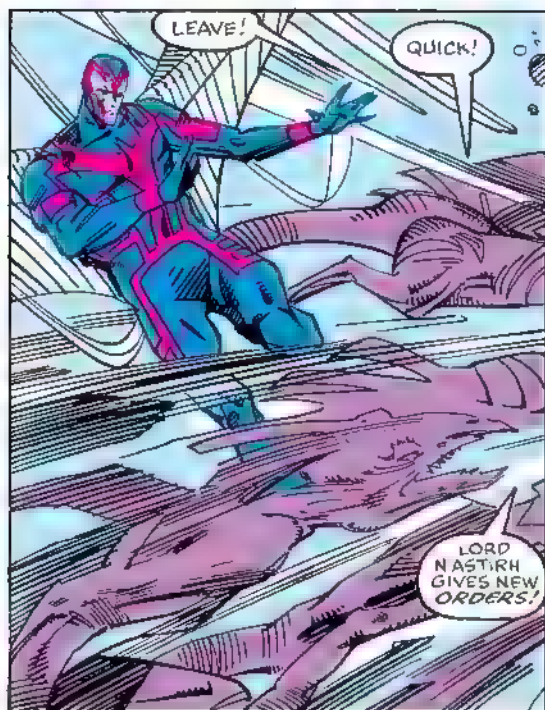


CAN YOU DENY THAT YOU HAVE HAD IT? BUT I, TOO, HAVE MY OWN AGENDA. AND SO I MUST WITHDRAW THOSE SERVANTS WHO REMAIN...

...TO CHECK THE ORPHANAGE. AND IF ALL IS AS YOU SAY IT IS, I WILL KEEP MY PROMISE, COMMANDER.

YOU WILL NOT DIE. AND YOUR ORGANIZATION WILL PROSPER. THAT...I GUARANTEE.

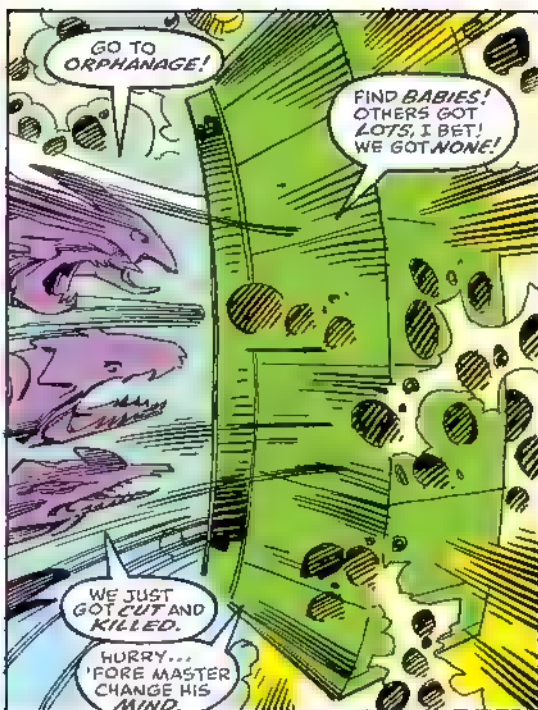
POP!



LEAVE!

QUICK!

LORD NASTIRH GIVES NEW ORDERS!

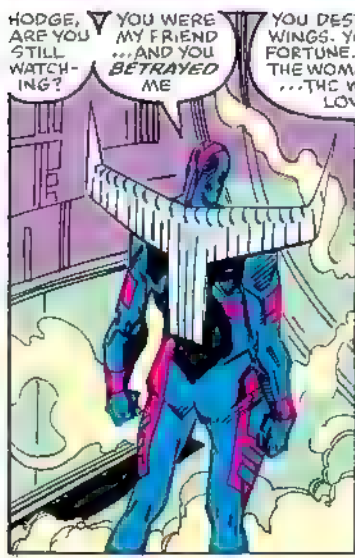


GO TO ORPHANAGE!

FIND BABIES! OTHERS GOT LOTS, I BET! WE GOT NONE!

WE JUST GOT CUT AND KILLED.

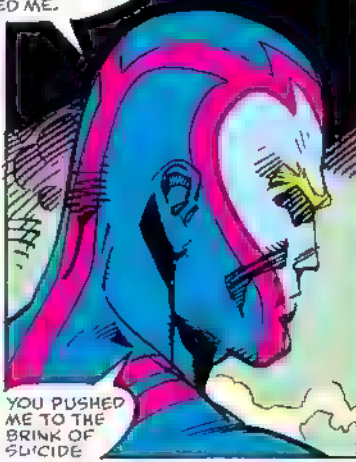
HURRY... 'FORE MASTER CHANGE HIS MIND.



HODGE, ARE YOU STILL WATCHING?

YOU WERE MY FRIEND... AND YOU BETRAYED ME

YOU DESTROYED MY WINGS. YOU STOLE MY FORTUNE. YOU KIDNAPED THE WOMAN THAT I LOVED... THE WOMAN WHO LOVED ME.

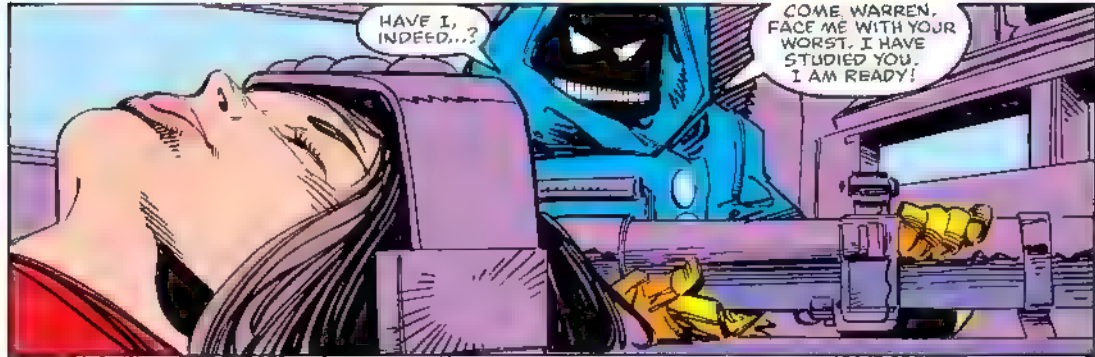


YOU PUSHED ME TO THE BRINK OF SUICIDE



YOU MADE ME INTO DEATH.

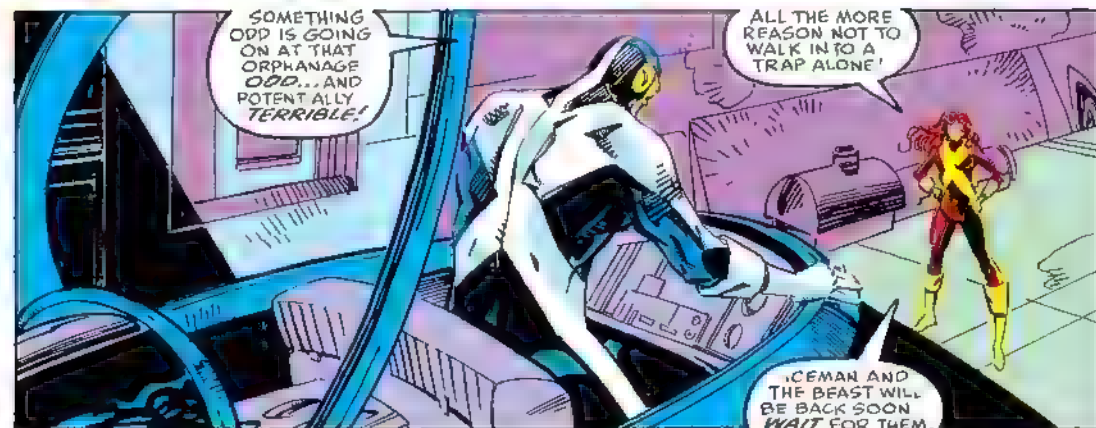
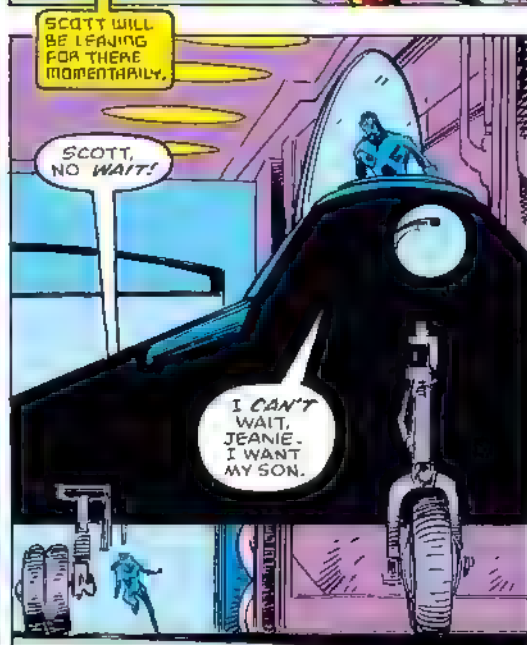
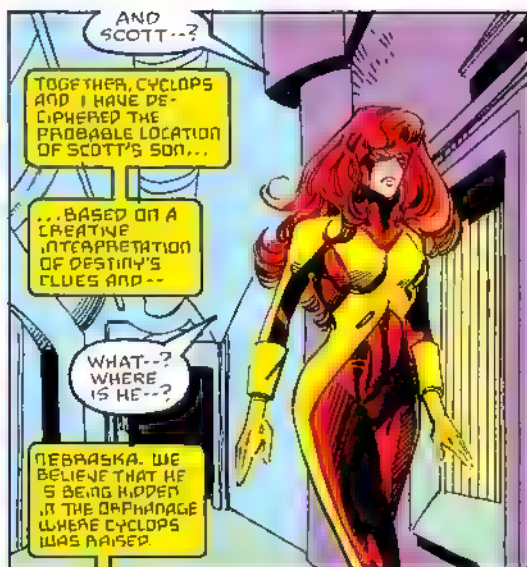
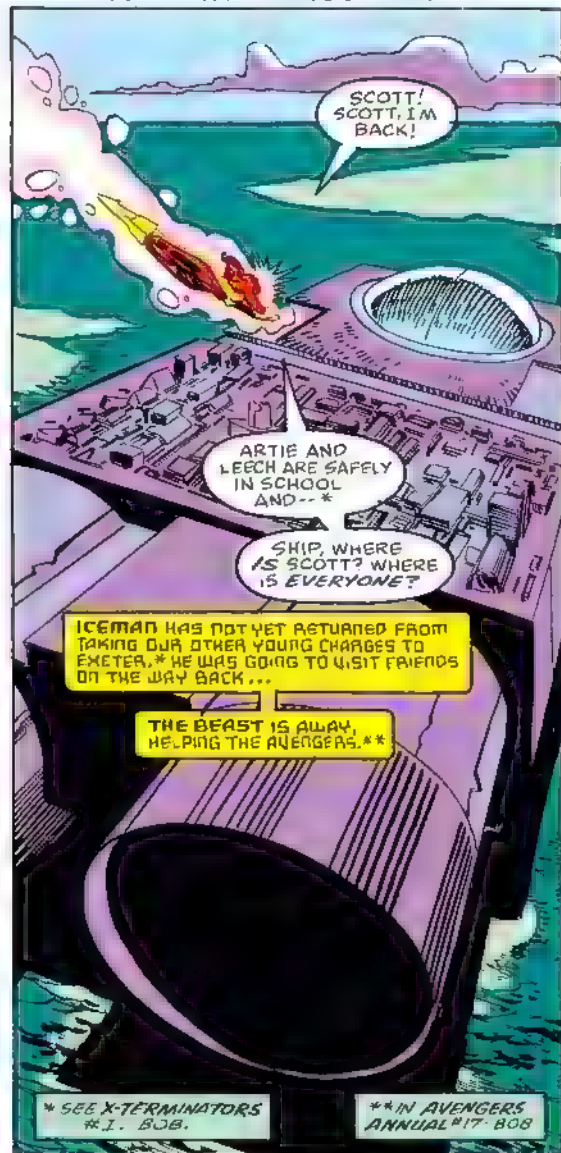
YOU HAVE WRITTEN THE DEATH WARRANT FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION.



HAVE I, INDEED...?

COME WARREN. FACE ME WITH YOUR WORST. I HAVE STUDIED YOU. I AM READY!

WHILE HALF A CONTINENT AWAY, JEAN GREY, a.k.a. MARVEL GIRL TELEKINETICALLY LOWERS HERSELF TO THE DECK OF X-FACTOR'S SENTIENT SHIP...



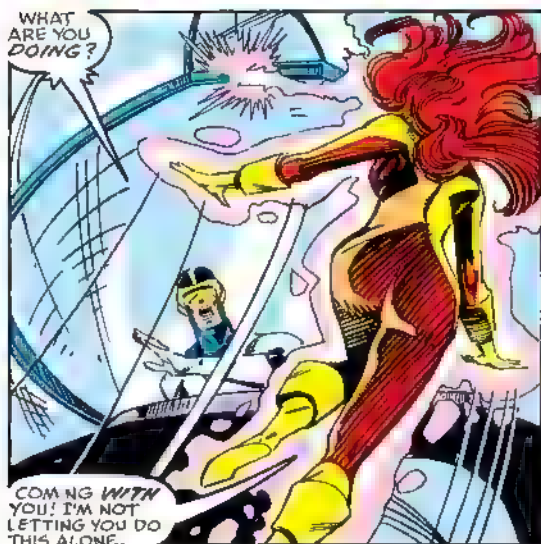


WAIT!

NO! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. HE MUST BE IN TERRIBLE TROUBLE.



ANY SECOND THAT I DELAY COULD MEAN HIS LIFE!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

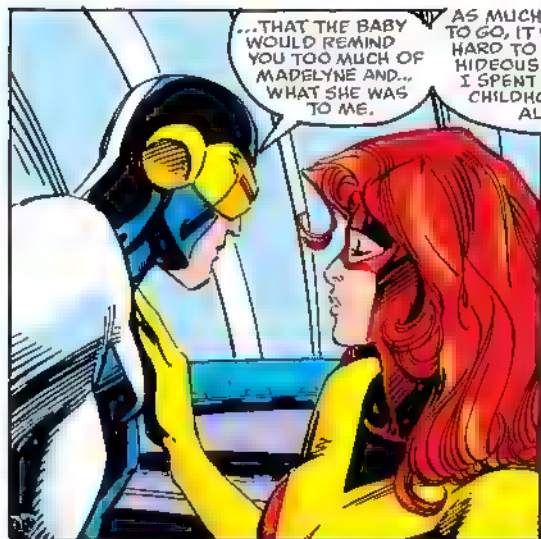
COMING WITH YOU! I'M NOT LETTING YOU DO THIS ALONE.



SHIP, WHEN THEY RETURN, TELL ICEMAN AND THE BEAST WHERE WE'VE GONE... AND WHERE THEY CAN JOIN US.

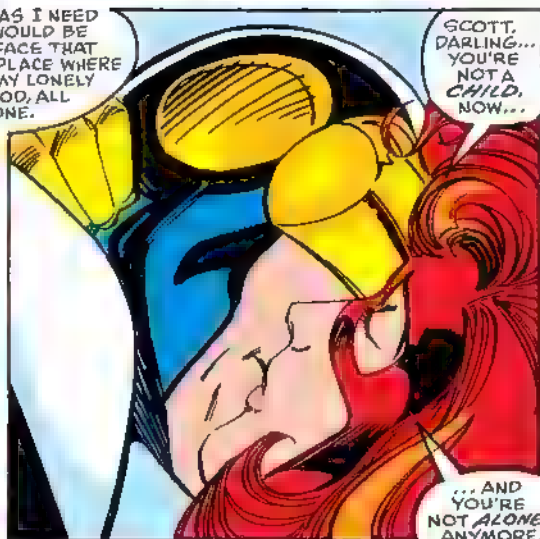
JEAN... I...

I'M GLAD YOU WANT TO COME. I... WAS AFRAID THAT YOU MIGHT NOT WANT TO...



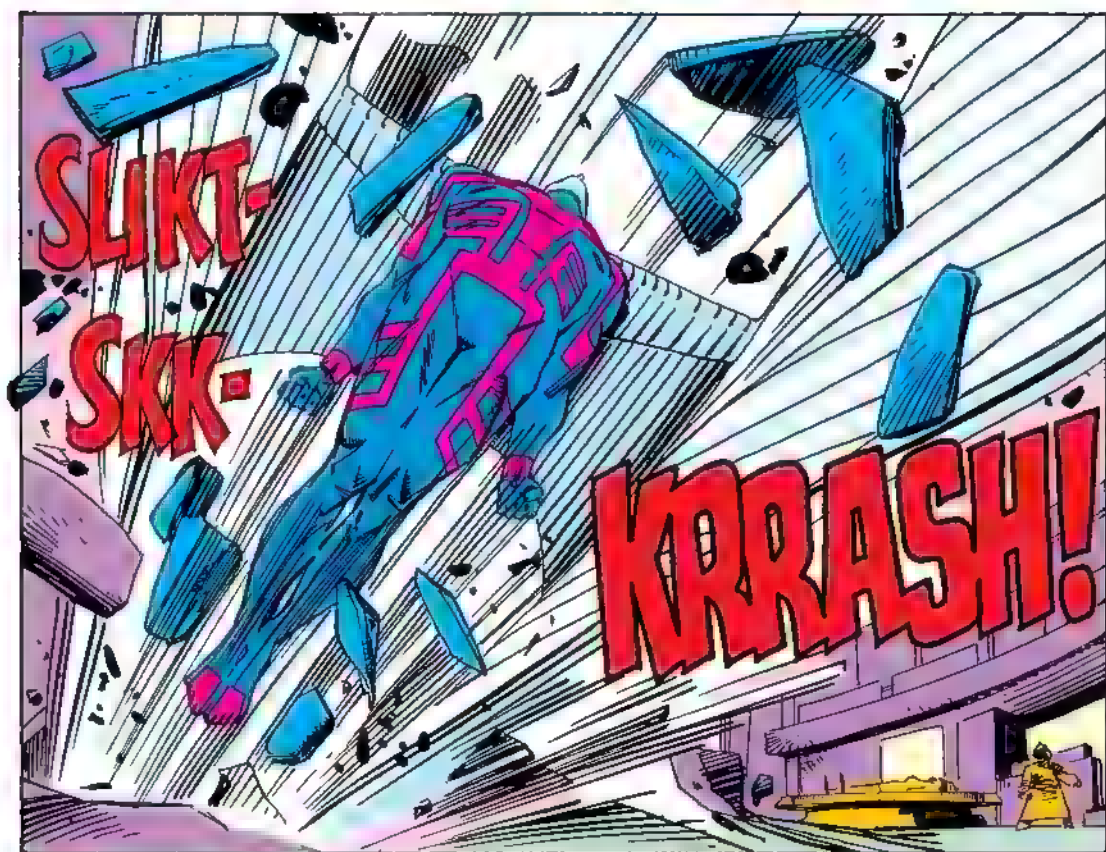
...THAT THE BABY WOULD REMIND YOU TOO MUCH OF MADELYNE AND... WHAT SHE WAS TO ME.

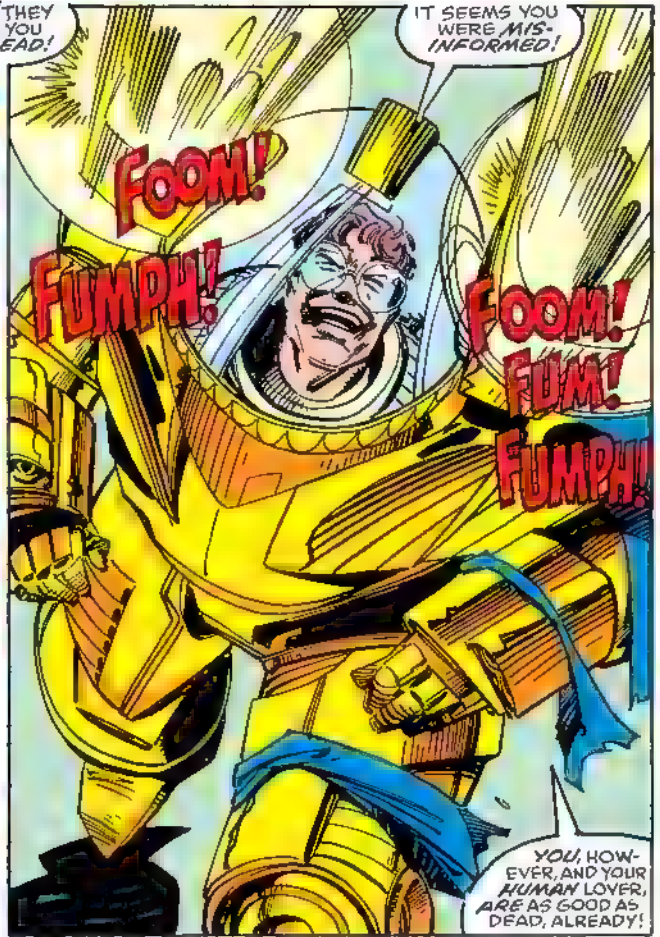
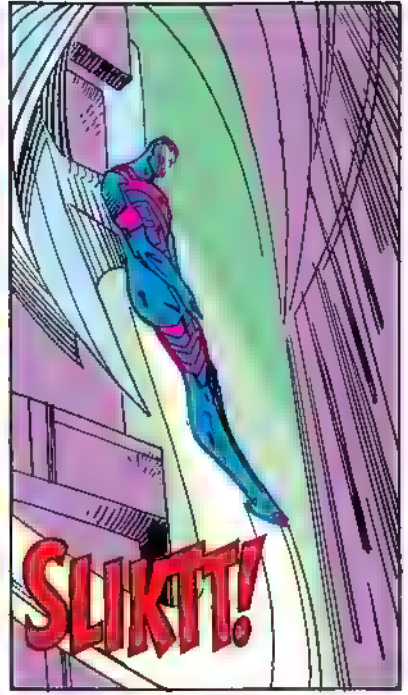
AS MUCH AS I NEED TO GO, IT WOULD BE HARD TO FACE THAT HIDEOUS PLACE WHERE I SPENT MY LONELY CHILDHOOD, ALL ALONE.

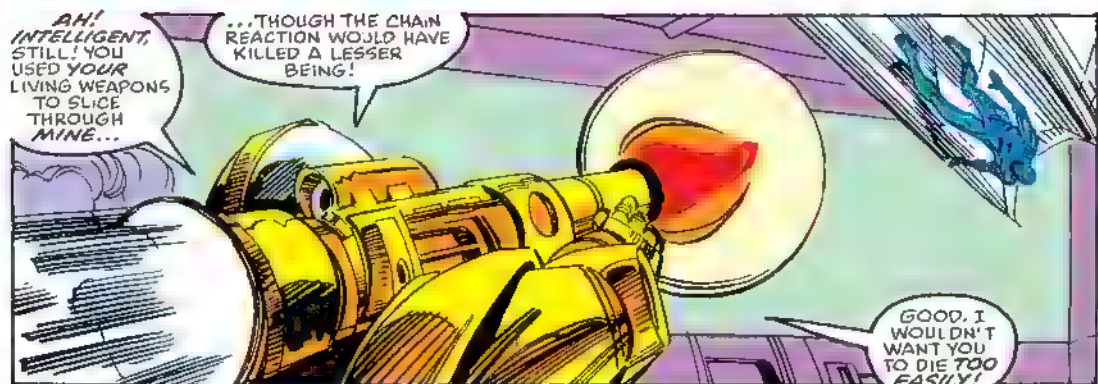
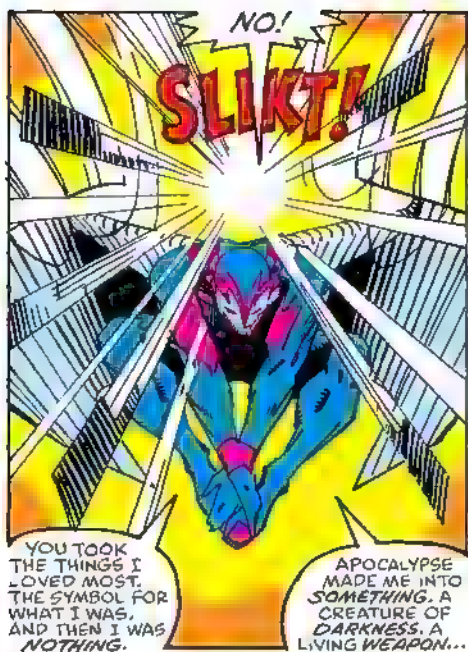


SCOTT, DARLING... YOU'RE NOT A CHILD, NOW...

...AND YOU'RE NOT ALONE, ANYMORE.







HODGE!
WHY--?

WE GREW UP
TOGETHER!
WE WERE
FRIENDS.

SLIKT!

THOK! SHRICK! THOK! THOK!

AND I FOLLOWED YOU AROUND LIKE A PUPPY!

THE DARTS AGAIN! THE LONG RANGE WEAPONS! YOU SEEM A MOST PRETERNATURALLY ACCURATE WITH THEM!

I WORSHIPED YOU, WARREN. YOU WERE ALL I EVER WANTED TO BE.

AND THEN YOU GREW WINGS AND FLEW AWAY AND LEFT ME BEHIND IN THE DUST.

HOW I HATED YOU FOR IT. AND NEVER FORGAVE YOU... AND WORKED TO DESTROY YOU.

I CREATED THE RIGHT TO ERADICATE MUTANTKIND. AS I, ONE DAY, PLANNED TO KILL YOU.

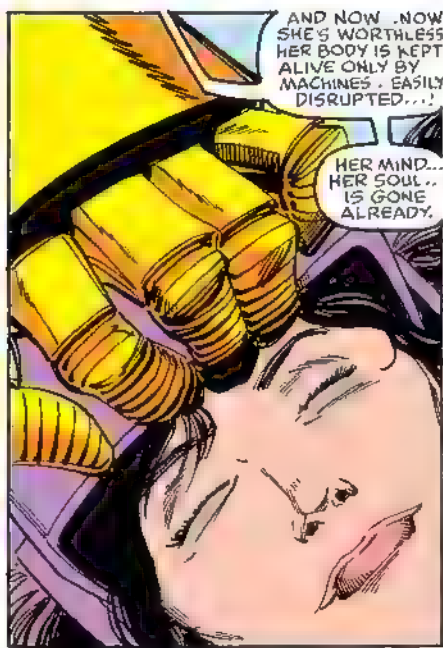
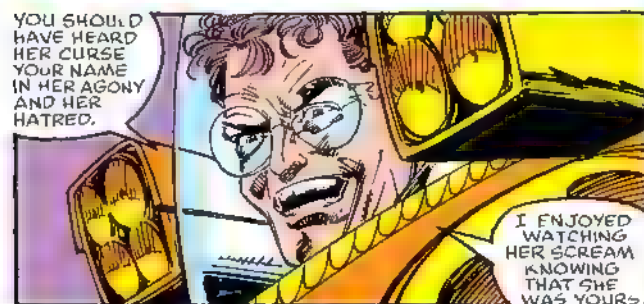
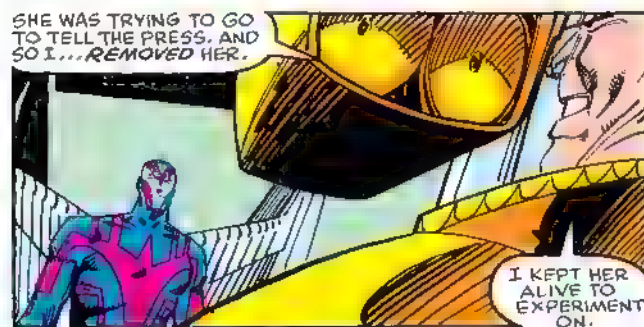
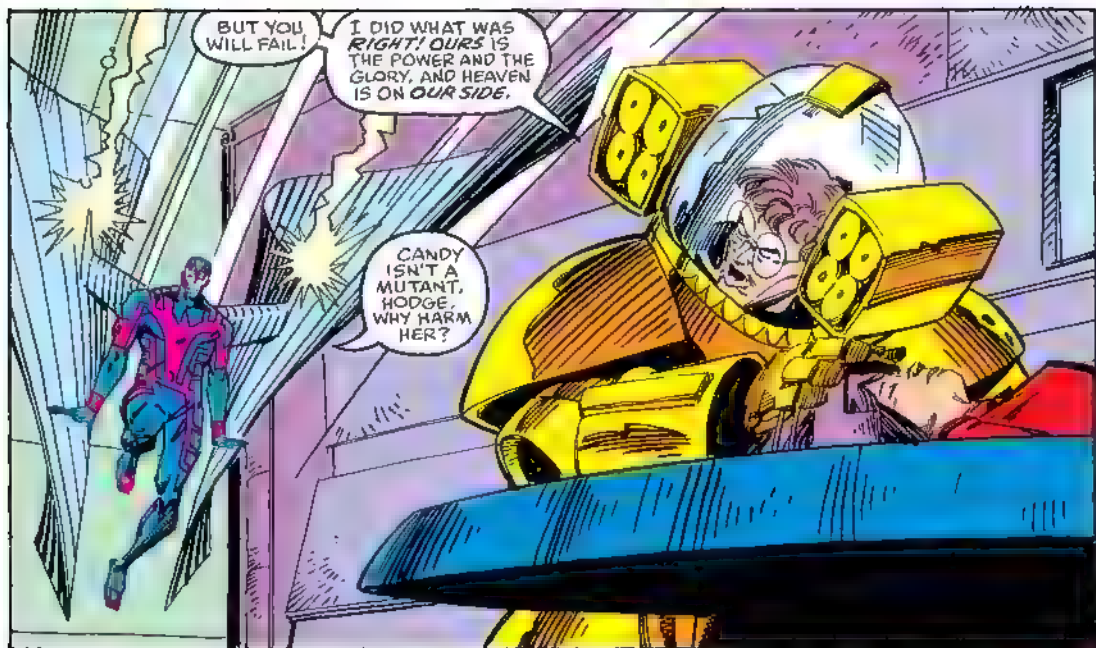
YOU WERE SUCH A BLITHE FOOL... YOU NEVER EVEN NOTICED.

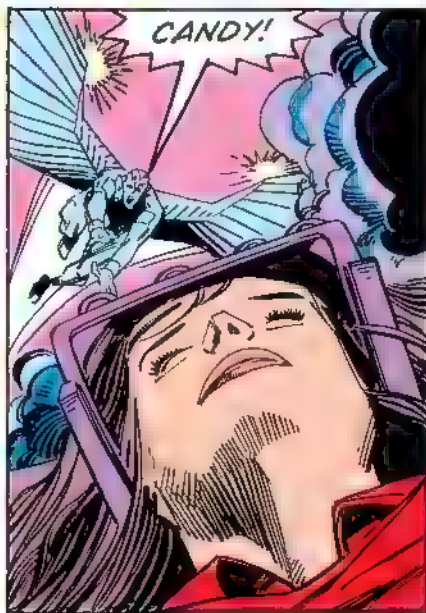
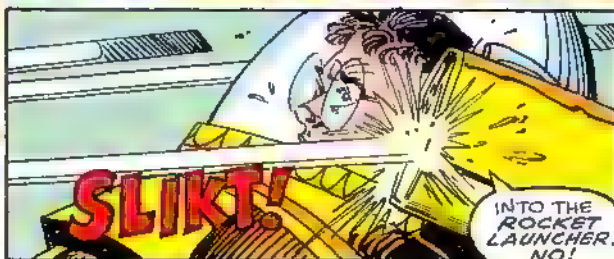
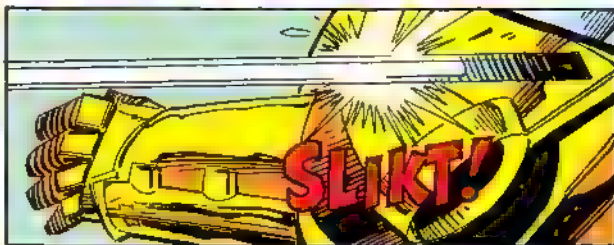
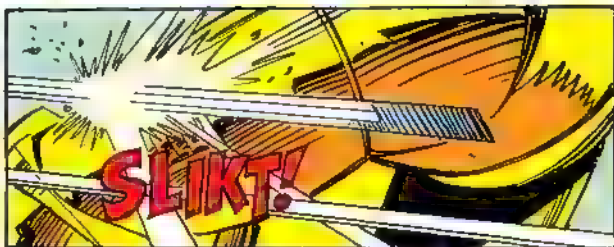
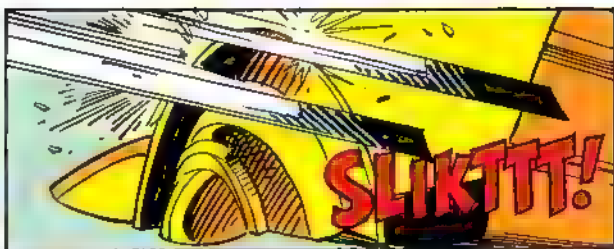
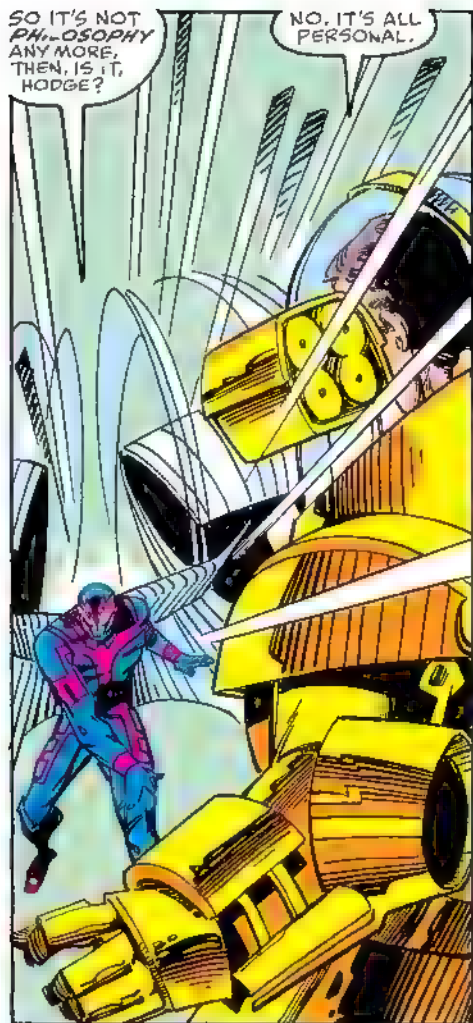
YOU ACTUALLY HIRED ME--ME!!!-- AS PUBLICIST FOR X-FACTOR.

AND YOU USED THAT POSITION OF TRUST TO CARRY YOUR MESSAGE OF FEAR AND HATRED TO OTHER HUMANS.

YOU SEEK TO DISTRACT ME WITH YOUR CHATTER, WARREN. CANDY SOUTHERN... AND HER RESCUE... IS YOUR GOAL!

FSHWOOMPH!







IT WON'T HELP
YOUR KIND, MUTANT.
NOTHING WILL.

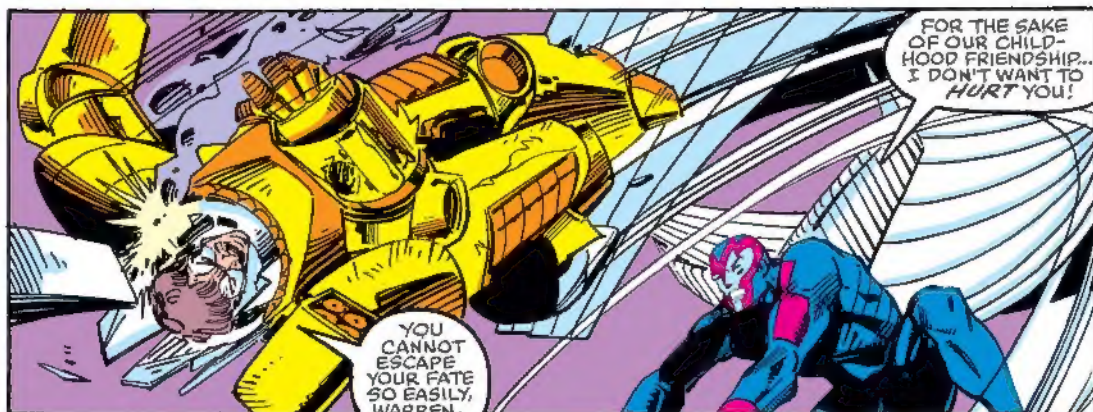
DEMONS
WILL CARRY
OFF YOUR
CHILDREN.



THEY HAVE
PROMISED ME
ETERNAL LIFE...

... AND THAT
MUTANTS WILL
PERISH FROM
THE FACE OF
THE EARTH!

HODGE, STOP!
LISTEN TO
ME! MY WINGS
... I CAN BARELY
CONTROL THEM.



FOR THE SAKE
OF OUR CHILD-
HOOD FRIENDSHIP...
I DON'T WANT TO
HURT YOU!

YOU
CANNOT
ESCAPE
YOUR FATE
SO EASILY,
WARREN.



COME... GRAPPLE
WITH ME. LEARN
HOW YOU'VE MOLDED
ME, AS SURELY AS
I'VE MOLDED YOU.

YOU STILL
DON'T UNDER-
STAND, DO YOU,
WARREN? THIS
FIGHT IS TO
THE DEATH!

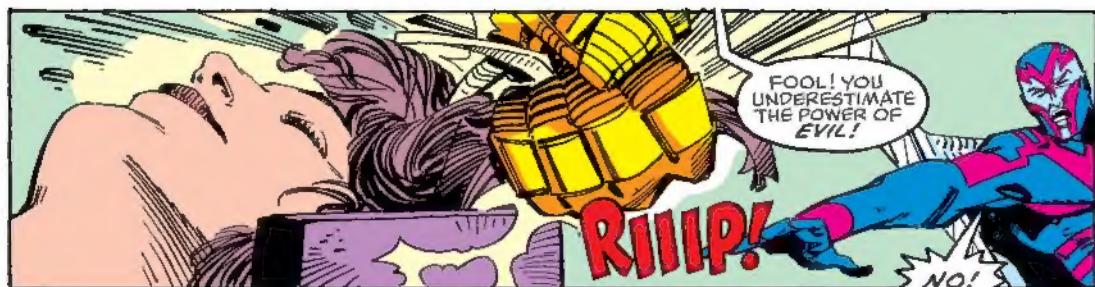


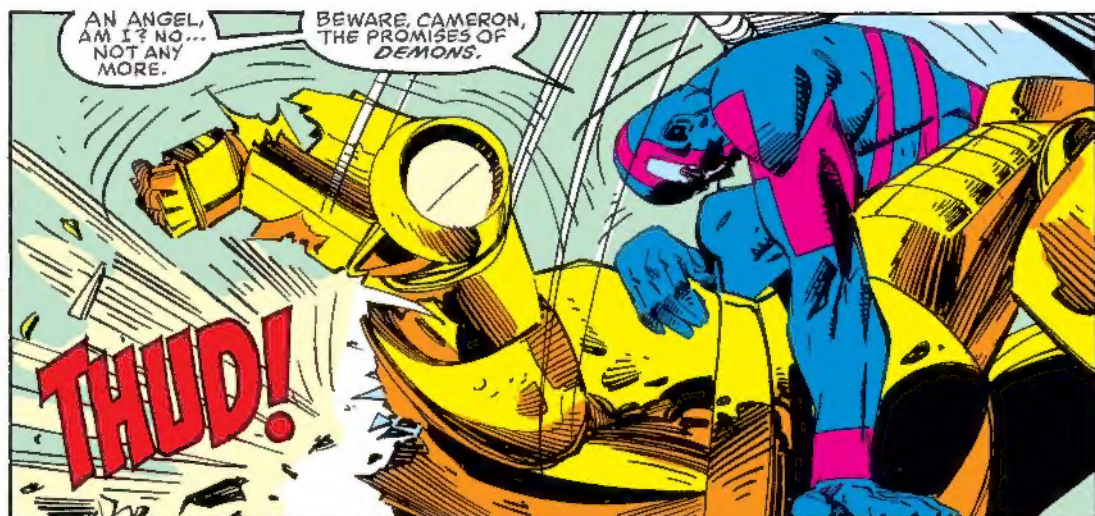
YOUR DEATH AND YOUR
HUMAN LOVER'S, NOT
MINE! I AM ARMORED
AGAINST YOU... AND THE
DEMON HAS PROMISED
ME LIFE!



HODGE...
NO!

YOU THINK
A PLEA FROM
YOU WILL
STOP ME?





ARE YOU HAPPY
NOW, CAMERON?
IS YOUR *EXPERIMENT*
A SUCCESS?

YOU HAVE MOLDED ME...
DESTROYED ME... AS
UTTERLY AS APOCALYPSE
EVER DID...

HE'S IN
THERE!

GET
HIM!

...AND THE
RIGHT WILL
REAP THE DESTRUCTION
THAT YOU
HAVE SOWN!

WELCOME,
GENTLEMEN. I'D
LIKE TO INTRODUCE
MYSELF... I AM THE
DARK ANGEL...
AND MY NAME IS
DEATH!

WHO HAS
SCOTT AND
MADELINE'S
BABY...?
FIND OUT
NEXT ISSUE
IN--

GO TO THE ORPHAN-MAKER

INFERNO
MINUS 1
...AND
COUNTING...!